

Bird Education and Research Quarterly Report

April, May, June 2016

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation



A group visits the bird banding station and sees a bird up-close during the Spring Bird Festival



Metro Parks PENpal Campers meet an Indigo Bunting and learn about where it nests and winters



This brilliant blue male Indigo Bunting nests in the fields of the Warner Parks, winters in Central America, and will return to the same area it nested in the year before



Wood Thrushes nest in the Warner Parks, then travel to Central and South American to spend the winter



Huge News!! A bluebird nestling was banded in the Park in July 2010 and recaptured in Wisconsin in May 2016!!! Diana McLusky banded it and coordinates the Program



Reese Wray and Emily Phipps worked as Bird Research Interns this summer thanks to a Partnership the Biology Department of Lipscomb University

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Bird Education and Research Coordinator

- Coordinator worked 192 hours and volunteered 120 hours
- Volunteers contributed **508 hours and 143 visits**
- Bird Research Projects and Programs connected with over **1825 visitors**
- Planning and organizing for the Spring Bird Festival including presentation of documentary film, *The Messenger*
- Coordinated spring migration banding project April-May
- Coordinated and planned for MAPS breeding bird project in May-June including net clearing, equipment, training
- Kathy Shaw presented a molt workshop for the banders and banding team volunteers
- Continued work with Cammie Claybrook on Bird Education and Research page on the nature center website
- Continued work with FOWP Nature Center sub-committee for the bird program; Chris Sloan, Chair; developed ideas for support, met with possible donor and developed proposal, new projects discussed including Bird Research Interns and an Adopt a Bluebird Box Program
- Met with Dr. John Lewis, Biology Dept., Lipscomb University to develop Bird Research Program for Summer 2016
- Interns and LU Biology Students Emily Phipps and Reese Wray started work on 1 June 2016!
- Planning for Hummingbird Banding Projects at Warner, Bells Bend, Shelby Bottoms and Beaman Nature Centers
- Coordinator served on the 2016 ANCA Awards Committee

Bird Projects and Programs

- 12 Banding Sessions held with 1256 visitors including field trips, Camp Warner Park, PENPals Camps and others
- 11 Bird Programs presented with 569 participants, including the Spring Bird Festival in April
- Spring Bird Count with the TN Ornithological Society (NTOS) on 30 April led by Rachel Anderson and Kim Bailey
- Warner Park Breeding Bird Survey completed by Sandy Bivens and Bob Parrish 10 June; ongoing since 1985
- Purple Martin Nest Boxes monitored by project coordinator Heather Gallagher
- eBird Project continued. Volunteers John Kell, Allison Salas, Cheryl Brummel, Cindy Bond and Sandy Bivens entered current & historical banding data and Warner Park bird sightings. Bird Interns Emily Phipps and Reese Wray worked intensely on historical banding data and entered years of data in June.
- Feather Project with UCLA Center for Tropical Research continued by Allison Salas, John Kell and Sandy Bivens
- Thanks to the dedicated bird research volunteers and staff that make these projects and programs possible! Kathy Shaw, Diana McLusky, Ethel Kawamura, Kim Bailey, Rachel Anderson, Susan Bradfield, Cyndi Routledge, John Kell, Laura & Della Hoffman, Allison Salas, Heather Gallagher, Denise Weyer, Melissa Donahue, Vera Vollbrecht and Bird Research Interns with the Lipscomb University Biology Department, Emily Phipps and Reese Wray

Eastern Bluebird Nest Box Project – coordinated by Diana McLusky

- Amelia Laskey Bluebird Nesting Box Program ongoing in the Warner Parks since 1936
- Bluebird Team monitored the 50 nest boxes each week and nestlings and some adults were banded
- A new Adopt a Bluebird Nest Box is being planned thanks to support from Tara and Ben Armistead
- HUGE BLUEBIRD NEWS! An Eastern Bluebird banded in Warner Park was recaptured in Wisconsin. On 8 July 2010 Diana McLusky banded 5 bluebird nestlings in nest box #29-2 on the Percy Warner Golf Course. One of those nestlings was #2251-20687. On 2 May 2016 Ann Wick captured this same bird as an adult female sitting on 6 eggs in one of her bluebird boxes in Black Earth, Wisconsin! This bird is now 6 years old and traveled 600 miles! This is an amazing recapture record and teaches us more about the mysteries of bird migration.
- Paul Pleiman, graduate student, University of Arkansas, continued his research of Warner Park bluebird data
- Bluebird Volunteers: Diana McLusky, John Kell, Sue Shallow, Kim Bailey, and Sandy Bivens

Bird Education and Research Program Coordinator Sandy Bivens, Assistant Coordinator Kathy Shaw

Submitted by Sandy Bivens, 15 July 2016